

JANUARY



BREAK THE ICE

During cold months, bodies of water — even those as big as the Chesapeake Bay — can freeze into thick sections of ice. This can have a big impact on those who rely on the bay for transporting goods and harvesting fish. Some Marylanders even live on **ISLANDS** only accessible by boat!

Luckily, expert crews aboard **FOUR DNR BOATS** break up the ice and maintain clear paths all winter long, so that boats can navigate, watermen can fish and residents don't get stranded.



BLOW FROZEN BUBBLES!

Have you ever seen liquid freeze? Observe how quickly it can happen, what it looks like, and which factors (such as blowing through a straw instead of a wand) cause different effects!

What you'll need:

- ¼ cup liquid dish soap
- ¾ cup water
- 1 ½ tablespoons light corn syrup
- Bubble wand or straw
- A cold night (below freezing!) with no wind



What you'll do:

- Mix the detergent, water and syrup and refrigerate until cold.
- Go outside
- Blow bubbles and be amazed!
 - o Can you catch one before it freezes?
 - o Do they freeze before they hit the ground?
 - o Do they fill up with fog from your breath?

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the 10 groups of letters to the right to spell them correctly!

eezrf _ _ _ _ _

dsinal _ _ _ _ _

rwtime _ _ _ _ _

vgnaionitn _ _ _ _ _

rekeicbaer _ _ _ _ _

blbebus _ _ _ _ _

nmetwrar _ _ _ _ _

wcer _ _ _ _ _

levess _ _ _ _ _

ptnrsaor _ _ _ _ _

FEBRUARY



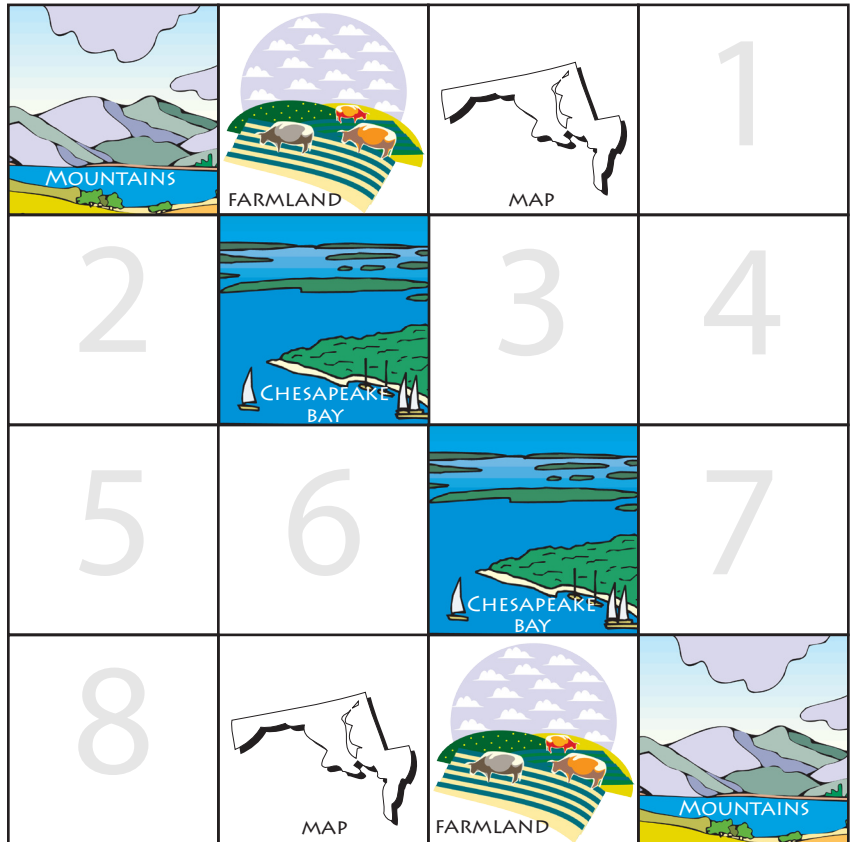
BY THE NUMBERS

Did you know?

- **MARYLAND** is approximately 250 miles long and 100 miles wide.
- It covers 12,407 square miles, making it the 8th smallest state in the nation.
- The center is located in Prince Georges County, 4.5 miles northwest of a town called Davidsonville.
- The **CHESAPEAKE BAY** is the largest American estuary. It is nearly 200 miles long and reaches from four to 20 miles across.
- More than 60 mountain ranges stand tall in **WESTERN MARYLAND**; some peak at more than 3,000 feet.

STATE SUDOKU

Fill in the empty boxes so that every row, column and 4-block square contains one Maryland image.



Answer Key: 1. Farmland; 2. Farmland; 3. Mountains; 4. Map; 5. Map; 6. Chesapeake Bay; 7. Chesapeake Bay; 8. Mountains



COLOR MARYLAND GREEN!

Now that you know a little bit more about Maryland geography, go outside with some art materials and let its beauty inspire you! Draw or paint a picture of something you find magnificent about its landscape, wildlife, water or outdoor activities. Take a photo or shoot a video of what you see, or pen a poem.

Then enter it in the **COLOR MARYLAND GREEN** contest by March 4 for a chance to win terrific prizes and be published in DNR's quarterly magazine, *The Maryland Natural Resource*!

MARCH



GO WITH THE FLOW

Did you know raindrops fall at speeds of 7 to 18 miles per hour? In wind, they might fall much faster. **BUT WHERE DOES THE RAIN GO?** It ultimately ends up in rivers and streams, each of which creates a passageway to the Chesapeake Bay. Can you think of one close to your house, at your local park or somewhere else nearby?

Each time it rains (or snows), the water collects pollution from the air and as it runs off buildings, roads and sidewalks. Pesticides, fertilizers and pet waste from our yards also wash away down storm drains, which also ultimately lead to our beloved bay. In the process, fish, frogs, salamanders, birds and other animals that live and feed near and on the water are harmed.

WANT TO HELP?

With an adult, you and friends can volunteer to stencil the drains in your neighborhood. Seeing the words *Don't dump. Drains to streams.* remind people that any trash they may have considered littering would end up polluting our water.

DNR has several stenciling **KITS YOU CAN BORROW.** Post pictures of your finished storm drains to **MAPPLER!**

Other ways to help: Pick up your animals waste as soon as possible. Sweep your street gutters to remove leaves and trash. Don't litter. Research the value of insects, and share what you have learned with your parents so they will reduce or not use pesticides.



AN A-MAZE-ING JOURNEY

Help the raindrop make it clean to the Bay!

